



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

Program: Huanglongbing (HLB – Citrus Greening) Date: October 24, 2005

During the week of October 24, there were confirmed positives in Sarasota and Key West Florida. Previously, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hendry, Martin, St. Lucie, and Sarasota Counties were found to be positive for citrus greening by Florida Department of Agriculture. The new presumptive positive are in Monroe County. To date, DPI has identified 404 positive trees from 268 locations in residential properties and commercial groves. APHIS PPQ confirmed the presence of *Candidatus Liberobacter asiaticus*, causal agent of citrus greening in four counties: Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Hendry Counties, with confirmation pending for the other four counties. Due to Hurricane Wilma, the next rotation of temporary personnel into West Palm Beach has been postponed. The survey strategy over the next couple of weeks will focus on buffer areas around commercial citrus nurseries in Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, and Polk Counties. These surveys will be carried out by the Florida CAPS team in concert with other local State and Federal personnel. We will re-visit the survey along the Treasure Coast as soon as the West Palm Beach area has returned to some normalcy following the significant impacts from Hurricane Wilma.